



NATIONAL ORGANIZATION MOBILIZED TO STOP GLUTAMATE

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3/22/00

Good Afternoon:

My name is Shirley Harvey. I live in Claremont, California. I am here speaking for NOMSG, National Organization Mobilized to Stop Glutamate.

We feel that in creating a "national definition" for the term "organic" the Department of Agriculture is leaving the door open for the approval of chemicals that many feel are not appropriate for use with organic products and leaving the door open, for example, to approval of manufactured amino acids such as glutamic acid, aspartic acid and L-cysteine, the three neurotoxic amino acids often used in processed food. We are concerned about the effects of neurotoxic amino acids on MSG-sensitive individuals as well as on future generations.

Our members are all sensitive to these neurotoxic chemicals, reacting with illnesses such as migraine headaches, asthma, intestinal disturbances and atrial fibrillation. We are able to survive by eliminating processed foods from our diet and using only fresh fruits, vegetables and meat. Certifying produce that has been sprayed with these chemicals will deny us access to the only foods safe for us to consume.